propose to take steps to instal Periar's statue in New Delhi at the earliest so that the citizens of the Capital may have the opportunity of Posthumously honouring this great son of India; and

(c) if so, by when steps would be taken to execute this project?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) Proposals for installation of statues in the Capital are normally to be initiated by organisations interested in the matter and are ready to bear the cost of the work. The organisations are also required to obtain clearance from the local bodies and other appropriate authorities.

**Increase in the prices of groundnut oil**

555. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) what is the percentage of rise in the prices of groundnut oil since the presentation of 1990-91 Budget and by what percentage the price is further anticipated to rise during the next six months or so stating the reasons for continuous rise in its price;

(b) whether Government propose for a phased increase in the edible oil prices through P.D.S.; if so, what are the deteils thereof stating the percentage by which the prices of edible oils are likely to be raised within the next six months and its over-all effect on the consumer particularly on the weaker saction of society;

(c) what is the extent of rise in the subsidy consequent on the rise in the prices of edible oils distributed through PDS; and

(d) the manner in which Government prospose to contain the continuous rise in the prices of edible oils?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI RAM PUJAN PATEL): (a) The percentage increase as on 4.8.90 in the prices of Groundnut oil (Bombay) since the presentation of Budget for 1990-91 is around 20%. The main reason for continuous rise in prices of groundnut oil is attributable to set back in the production of groundnut this year.

(b) Presently there is no proposal for a phased increase in the edible oil prices through Public Distribution System.

(c) There is no subsidy on account of allocation of edible oils under Public Distribution System.

(d) Measures taken by the Government to contain the continuous rise in prices of edible oils broadly include—steps to increase production of essential commodities like edible oils which are in short supply, strengthening of P.D.S., monitoring of prices and availability situation, strict enforcement of provisions of Essential Commodities Act and other regulatory measures, and augmenting domestic supply through imports wherever necessary.

**Loss due to floods in Rajasthan**

556. SHRI KRISHANA KUMAR BIRLA:
DR. ABRAR AHMED KHAN:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be please to state:

(a) what is the estimated loss of life, property and crop caused by the recent floods in Rajasthan;

(b) what is the estimated number of people affected by the floods;

(c) what is the nature and quantum of the Central assistance given to the State Government to provide relief to the affected persons and to rehabilitate them; and

(d) whether any Central team has visited the State to assess the losses and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI UPENDRA NATH VERMA) (a) and (b) In accordance with the report received from the State Government, the estimated loss of life, property and crops caused by the recent floods in Rajasthan as on 7.8.1990 is as under:—

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| (i) Loss of human life | — | 93 |
| (ii) Loss of cattle life | — | 17,000 |
| (iii) Damage to crops | — | Not reported |
| (iv) Population affected | — | —do— |
| (v) No. of houses damaged | — | 95,000 |

(c) and (d) Consequent upon the acceptance of the recommendations of the Ninth Finance Commission, the scheme for financing the relief expenditure has undergone change from 1.4.1990 and the earlier system of sending the Central Team to the State to assess the damage, etc. has been dispensed with. A Calamity Relief Fund has been constituted for each State including Rajasthan with an allocated amount. Rajasthan State has been allocated Rs. 124 crore for 1990-91 under the Calamity Relief Fund, 75, per cent of which shall be contributed by the Central Government in four quarterly instalments as a non-Plan grant. The balance amount shall be arranged by the State Government from its own resources. The Centre's contribution towards the first quarterly instalment amounting to Rs. 23.25 crore has been released to the State Government on 4th June, 1990. Fullowing the creation of the Calamity Relief Fund, it is the responsibility of the State Government to meet all expenditure arising out of natural calamities.

**Train accidents near Dalton Ganj and and at Dulariya station**

557. SHRI KRISHANA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a train accident took place recently near Dalton Ganj when a goods train rammed into the passenger train and a large number of persons were Killed and serveral passengers were injured;

(b) whether it is also a fact that in another train accident some persons were killed and a large number of persons were injured when 1058 UP Amritsar-Dadar Express collided with a stationary goods train at Dulariya station on the Itarsi-Bansaval section; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Both these accidents took place on 25.6.1990.

In the accident at Mangra station near Dalton Ganj on Dhanbad Division of Eastern Railway, 22 persons lost their lives and 62 sustained injuries.

In the accident at Dulariya station of Bhopal Division of Central Railway, 4 persons lost their lives and 28 sustained injuries.

**Crash action plan for better medical care under ESI scheme**

558. SHRI DAYANAND SAHAY: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to draw up a crash action plan to provide better medical care to workers covered under the Employees State Insurance Scheme;

(b) if so, the details and background thereof;

(c) whether some phases have been fixed to implement this plan;